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## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

BEFORE THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

In re:

CYNTHIA McCONNELL, WILSENE MOODY, and O & W MOODY, LTD., CO., an Arkansas corporation,	) ) ) )	Docket No. 12-06/3
Respondents.	)	COMPLAINT

There is reason to believe that the respondents named herein have violated either the Horse Protection Act, as amended (15 U.S.C. § 1821 et seq.) (the "Act") or an order of disqualification issued under the Act, or both. Therefore, the Administrator of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service issues this complaint alleging the following:

## JURISDICTIONAL ALLEGATIONS

- Respondent Cynthia McConnell is an individual whose mailing address is 125 E.
   Valleywood Drive, Collierville, Tennessee 38017 and does business as Whitter Stables.
- Respondent Wilsene Moody is an individual whose mailing address is 1355
   N. Central Ave., Batesville, Arkansas 72501-3208.
- 3. Respondent O & W Moody, Ltd., Co. is an Arkansas corporation whose mailing address is 1355 N. Central Ave., Batesville, Arkansas 72501-3208, and whose agent for service of process is Wilsene Moody, located at the same address.
- 4. Respondent Cynthia McConnell was disqualified for two years, beginning
  October 30, 2006 following a mandate from the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth
  Circuit that denied a petition for rehearing, from showing, exhibiting, or entering any horse in
  any horse show, or from otherwise participating in such events, pursuant to a Decision and Order

issued in HPA Docket No. 99-0034 (<u>In re Jackie McConnell, Cynthia McConnell, and Whitter Stables</u>, 2005 WL 1524664, 33). The Order states:

"Cynthia McConnell is disqualified for a period of 2 years from showing, exhibiting, or entering any horse, directly or indirectly through any agent, employee, or device, and from managing, judging, or otherwise participating in any horse show, horse exhibition, horse sale, or horse auction."

5. Between August 29, 2007 and October 19, 2007, Cynthia McConnell, doing business as Whitter Stables, violated her Federal disqualification by entering and or exhibiting horses in the following horse shows and exhibitions, or otherwise participated in such horse shows and exhibitions on or about the dates set forth below:

**69<sup>th</sup> Annual Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration** Shelbyville, Tennessee August 29-September 1, 2007

The 29<sup>th</sup> Annual International Grand Championship Performance Walking Horse Show Murfeesboro, Tennessee September 27-29, 2007

The 2007 Purchase Area Charity Horse Show Martin, Tennessee October 19, 2007

- 6. On or about September 1, 2007, Cynthia McConnell entered for the purpose of showing or exhibiting, the horse "Moody Star," as entry number 284 in class number 166 at the 69<sup>th</sup> Annual Tennessee Walking Horse Celebration in Shelbyville, Tennessee.
- 7. On or about September 1, 2007, Wilsene Moody and O&W Moody, Ltd.,
  Co. entered and allowed the entry of "Moody Star" in the 69<sup>th</sup> Annual Tennessee Walking Horse
  National Celebration, in Shelbyville, Tennessee, for the purpose of exhibiting the horse as entry
  number 284 in class number 166.

## ALLEGED FAILURE TO OBEY ORDER OF DISQUALIFICATION

- 8. On or about August 29- September 1, 2007, respondent Cynthia McConnell knowingly violated the Order in HPA Docket No. 99-0034 by entering at least six horses at the 69<sup>th</sup> Annual Tennessee Walking Horse Celebration.
- 9. On or about September 27-29, 2007, respondent Cynthia McConnell knowingly violated the Order in HPA Docket No. 99-0034 by entering for the purpose of exhibiting or showing at least nineteen horses in twenty-two classes at the 29<sup>th</sup> Annual International Grand Championship Performance Walking Horse Show.
- 10. On or about October 19, 2007, respondent Cynthia McConnell knowingly violated the Order in HPA Docket No. 99-0034 by entering for the purpose of exhibiting or showing at least eleven horses at the 2007 Purchase Area Charity Horse Show.

## ALLEGED VIOLATIONS OF THE ACT AND REGULATIONS

- 11. On or about September 1, 2007, Cynthia McConnell entered the horse "Moody Star," for the purpose of showing or exhibiting the horse at the 69<sup>th</sup> Annual Tennessee Walking Horse Celebration in Shelbyville, Tennessee while the horse was sore, in violation of section 5(2)(B) of the Act (15 U.S.C. §1824(2)(B)).
- 12. On or about September 1, 2007, Wilsene Moody and O&W Moody, Ltd.,

  Co. entered and allowed the entry of "Moody Star" in the 69<sup>th</sup> Annual Tennessee Walking Horse

  National Celebration, in Shelbyville, Tennessee, while the horse was sore, in violation of section

  5(2)(D) of the Act (15 U.S.C. §1824(2)(D)).

WHEREFORE, it is hereby ordered that for the purpose of determining whether the respondents have in fact violated the Act and an Order of disqualification under the Act, this

complaint shall be served upon the respondents. The respondents shall file an answer with the Hearing Clerk, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250-9200, in accordance with the Rules of Practice governing proceedings under the Act (7 C.F.R. § 1.130 et seq.). Failure to file an answer shall constitute an admission of all the material allegations of this complaint.

The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service requests:

- 1. That unless the respondents fail to file an answer within the time allowed therefor, or file an answer admitting all the material allegations of this complaint, this proceeding be set for oral hearing in conformity with the Rules of Practice governing proceedings under the Act; and
- 2. That such order or order be issued as are authorized by the Act and warranted under the circumstances, including disqualifying the respondent from showing horses and assessing civil penalties against the respondents in accordance with sections 6(b) and 6(c) of the Act (15 U.S.C. §1825(b), (c)).

Done at Washington, D.C. this 30 day of Tuly, 2012

Administrator

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

BRIAN HILL
Attorney for Complainant
Office of the General Counsel
United States Department of Agriculture
Washington, D.C. 20250-1400
Telephone (202) 720-9237



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Office of Administrative Law Judges

CERTIFIED RECEIPT REQUESTED

Hearing Clerk

August 30, 2012

Room 1031 South Building Cynthia McConnell d/b/a Whitter Stables 125 E. Valleywood Drive Collierville, TN 38017

1400 Independence Avenue SW

Washington, DC 20250-9200 Wilsene Moody 1355 N. Central Ave. Batesville, AR 72501-3208

(202) 720-4443 (202) 720-9776 fax

O&W Moody, Ltd., Co., an Arkansas corporation c/o Wilsene Moody 1355 N. Central Ave. Batesville, AR 72501-3208

Dear Respondents:

Subject:

CYNTHIA McCONNELL, WILSENE MOODY, and O&W MOODY, LTD., CO., an Arkansas

corporation, Respondents
Docket No. 12-0613

Enclosed is a copy of the Complaint, filed under the Horse Protection Act. Also enclosed is a copy of the Rules of Practice which govern the conduct of these proceedings.

The rules specify that you may represent yourself or obtain legal counsel. You have 20 days from receipt of this letter to file with the Hearing Clerk an original and five (5) copies of your written and signed Answer to the Complaint. Your Answer must set forth any defense you wish to claim, and must admit or deny each allegation as set forth in the Complaint. In addition, your Answer may include a request for an oral hearing. Failure to file an Answer or filing an Answer which does not deny the material allegations of the Complaint shall constitute an admission of those allegations and waive your right to an oral hearing. If a hearing is required, it will be heard and decided by an Administrative Law Judge on the basis of exhibits received in evidence and sworn testimony subject to cross-examination.

It is your responsibility to notify this office of any change in address or telephone numbers. Failure to do so may result in a judgment being entered against you without your knowledge. Your answer, as well as any pleadings or requests regarding this proceeding should be submitted in original and five to the Hearing Clerk, OALJ, Room 1031, South Building, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250-9200.

Any questions regarding the potential settlement of this case should be directed to the attorney whose name and telephone number appears on the last page of the enclosed Complaint.

Sincerely,

L. EUGENE WHITFIELD Hearing Clerk

**Enclosures** 

cc:

Brian Hill, OGC Jo Brown, APHIS

fccangeles/8/30/2012

U.S. Postal Service CERTIFIED MAIL RECEIPT 070 0104 0.704 Mail Only: No Insurance Coverage Provided) 7837 7837 Ф Postage ш 000 Certified Fee Postmark Return Receipt Fee (Endorsement Required) Here 1,160 1,1,6,0 Restricted Delivery Fee (Endorsement Required) 1,160 7005 7005 WILSENE MOODY 7005 1355 N. CENTRAL AVE. BATESVILLE, AR 72501-3208 PS Form 3800, June 2002 U.S. Postal Service™ 0128 0128 CERTIFIED MAIL RECEIPT 0.128 (Domestic Mall Only; No Insurance Coverage Provided) 7837 7837 m 78 Postage 000 2000 Ш Certified Fee Postmark Return Receipt Fee (Endorsement Required) Here 1,160 1160 Restricted Delivery Fee 7005 7005 7005 CYNTHIA McCONNELL 125 E. VALLEYWOOD DR. COLLIERVILLE, TN 38017 PS Form 3800, June 2002 U.S. Postal Service™ CERTIFIED MAIL RECEIPT 0111 0777 0111 (Domestic Mail Only; No Insurance Coverage Provided) 7837 837 7837 Postage 000 000 Certified Fee Postmark Return Receipt Fee (Endorsement Required) Here 1160 Restricted Delivery Fee (Endorsement Required) 1,160 O&W MOODY, LTD., CO. 7005 7005 7005 c/o WILSENE MOODY 1355 N. CENTRAL AVE. BATESVILLE, AR 72501-3208 PS Form 3800, June 2002